

cc Ed.

Burlington, Ont. Feb. 25, 1985

To the Brethren and Sisters of the Houston Ecclesia:

Loving Greetings in the Master's Name

Thank you for your letter written by Bro. Carwyn which expressed your views in regard to the Kenya report that we issued on Dec. 4.

When we issued the report, it was not done without thought and many conversations and correspondence with other brethren on the subject. At the last Hye Gathering the situation regarding Kenya and Chile brethren and sisters was discussed at length on the last Saturday and I had no negative comments regarding my remarks as to how the need should be looked after. My impressions were that the Houston Ecclesia was keeping the Chilean Bro. and Sis and family and this was costing in the neighbourhood of \$500. per month. This is no light burden and it prompted us to think of ways to lighten this in some way so that this burden could in some way be alleviated.

We also are aware of another situation in Lampasas that should receive attention.

The solution appeared to be that the brotherhood should contribute to the welfare of all those in need rather than the burden be carried by a few. With the above in mind we felt that an Assistance fund should be set up to take care of all in need wherever they are.

I might mention that the response to the last report has been very encouraging and we have received a great deal of help which relieves the anxiety of how we will be able to meet the obligations in the future.

Nevertheless we understand your position and in true brotherly spirit do not wish to do anything that does not meet with your approval.

We are aware that you have been receiving private donations to assist in the work which we were not cognizant of in the past. It appears that this situation should remain as is so we hesitate to disturb it.

Bro. Ed Truelove travelled to visit us early February and we discussed at length his visit to Kenya and make plans for contributing to their welfare in the coming year. Your letter was also considered along with comments from Detroit on the same subject. It is agreed that we will not endeavour to administer funds to Houston and leave the situation as it is. Our efforts will be to look after Kenya but at the same time we would like to have the liberty of looking after a need in any part of the world if such cannot be looked after by the ecclesia in that location. Such can happen if a family is in dire straits and in isolation. Who can be called on to help?

Please do not misinterpret what we are trying to do. Let us look at the objective. The assistance of the brethren and sisters who are genuinely in need wherever they are.

Bro. Ed Truelove will be issuing a report on his trip to Kenya very shortly. He will clarify our position in this report which I trust will meet with your approval.

We now have 98 brethren and sisters in Kenya, most of which are unemployed and depend on the fruits of the land which consists of an average of five acre plots. The need for assistance is there so 99% of what we receive will go towards their sustenance and for the furtherance of the Truth.

The Lord has blessed us all to enable us to assist them. Who can tell the mind of the Lord and who he calls in these last days.

Please write me again if you have any questions and I will reply promptly.

Bro. Ed and myself send our love in the Truth.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to be 'D. J.', written in dark ink. The signature is positioned centrally below the text.